

CURIOSITIES OF THE LOTTERY.

Odd Bits of Human Nature—How Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson Advocated and Aided the Lottery Business

Bunker Hill Monument and Most Christian Church Belts—A Lottery or a Little Christy?—A Singular Bit of Social History.

By one of those coincidences which are called "strange" in fiction, although they are all the time occurring in real life, it has happened that (while Monsieur Lesses was agitating the idea of a lottery in France to carry through his new Farnese canal project) the old Union canal, the very oldest canal in the country, and which was originally and materially aided in its construction by lottery, has outlived its usefulness and has been abandoned.

The Union Canal of Pennsylvania was the first projected on the American continent, and it was suggested by William Penn in 1690, years before a canal ever was in operation even in England. The route was surveyed by David Bittenham, the astronomer, and Dr. William Smith, provost of the University of Pennsylvania.

The drawings of the lottery in aid of the Union canal took place in the old Academy of Philadelphia, in the quiet street, near Franklin, and were carried on as occasions of public interest. The work was interrupted by the Revolution War, but later on Robert Morris, Robert Fulton and Jacob Francis became interested in it.

The canal was eighty-nine miles long and necessitated in its construction some of the greatest engineering work of the day. The first tunnel in the United States was bored for this canal, and a colossal pumping apparatus was used to raise the water to the necessary height.

The canal cost \$3,000,000 (equivalent to ten times what it would be at present time), was worth to the state every dollar it cost, and would never have been completed had it not been for the lottery.

It was decided to the Union Canal was afterwards started by the Bostonians to enable "the Hub" to compete with New York; but although this canal was completed (through the agency also of a public lottery formed to aid in its construction) it failed to render Boston equal to New York, though it did much good, nevertheless.

Various public works besides canals were to the lottery, and when New England people felt short of finishing the Bunker Hill Monument, a large lottery was suggested to continue the good work. "The Bell" was gotten up at a "ladies' fair," to which Fanny Elesher, the danseuse, contributed, and which supplied the funds required.

Even the phlegmatic Germans took kindly to the lotteries, and drawings of interesting magnitude took place in Vienna and Berlin. The lottery then found its way, on the general principles of human nature, into Great Britain, where it took root and flourished. The first English lottery was for the repairing of harbors and fortifications along the coast. The first public drawing in England took place in the year of old St. Paul's Cathedral, in the presence of a vast crowd.

The joint committee appointed to investigate the management of the Virginia Military Institute (Mr. Stubbs, chairman) to day made their report. In the report the committee say as to the charges made that the credit of the Institute was at a low ebb and that three prices had to be paid for supplies, &c.

It was proven that supplies can be bought on better terms with the endorsement of the State, as asserted, but the regular expression "three prices" as extravagant and unnecessary.

As to the status of the various trusts funds connected with the Virginia Military Institute, the committee say the sum of the institution amounting to \$89,700, have been recklessly absorbed in the general expense fund of the Institute, have been dissipated and their very existence compromised, cannot be too severely censured.

The committee recommends that an expert be placed at the service of the present Board of Visitors for the purpose of tracing accurately the amounts of said funds, the disposition made of them, and that they embody the result in their next report, with a view of reinstating said funds and re-allocate them to the purposes for which they were originally established, and that they shall likewise examine into the bonds of the bonded and floating debt of the Institute.

As to the charge "that the appropriation ordered by the Board of Visitors had been transacted," the committee said that it had been done in a slight degree, but the disposition to disregard the order of the Board on the part of the Superintendent in this particular, and that he would have done so but for the checks established by the Board, was clearly established.

In regard to the charge that the Superintendent had sentents belonging to the Institute to Christopher S. C. without authority, the committee only stated that it was earnestly commended the Superintendent on his action, which was approved both by the Governor and the president of the Board, that the expression "without authority" was an unfathomable reflection upon the generous action of the Superintendent in sending the old tents to the Charles-ton sufferers.

These Christ Church bells are almost as well known and historical in the Quaker City as are "bow bells" in London, the whole weight being over nine hundred pounds and very harmonious—literally "music by the pound." They were cast in London and brought over with great care and large expense to Philadelphia. The lottery funds of which procured these bells was regarded by the good men and women at the time as a public benefit.

In New England a lottery was originated for the purpose of raising funds to supply sailors and strangers with Bibles, and succeeded largely in accomplishing its object. Thus a lottery became a trade society. Various Episcopal and Congregational churches at Newport and elsewhere have been built with the help of lotteries.

Two of the most noted preachers in this country, Increase and Cotton Mather, lived and died in houses built by lotteries, and the Rev. Dr. Elihuot Nott, of Union College, has written the best, because most truthful, defence of the lottery system. Rev. Dr. Nott was a historical character, the grandfather of the present Bishop Henry Codman Potter, of New York, and the inventor of the celebrated Nott stove. The defense of the lottery system was before the New York Legislature.

The first Episcopal church in Brooklyn, St. Ann's, on the Heights, was erected largely by means of funds under the personal direction of Rev. Dr. Page.

The famous charity hospital of New Orleans, one of the historic institutions of the country, has for many years been partly supported by over a quarter of a million of dollars received for it during that period from the Louisiana State Lottery.

Christ Church, in Louisiana, the first Protestant church in that State, was erected on a site purchased by lottery funds, and various similar instances could be cited.

Colleges and schools in America, almost without number, have from time to time been indebted to lotteries for their erection or completion. Dartmouth College, Harvard College, Leicester Academy, Rhode Island College, Williamsburg Free School, some dozen of educational institutions in New York State and Pennsylvania, and scores of institutions through the South and West might be enumerated. Roads have been constructed by lottery funds, also bridges, canals, and manufactures. In addition to the Union Canal, already mentioned, the Amoskeag Canal, and the Wilton Canal must be cited, while Battield Bridge, River Park Bridge, Kennebec Bridge, the Milton Paper Mill, the Connecticut Manufacturing, all owe their very existence to the lottery system.

To this system Rhode Island owes to-day its free schools, Connecticut its orphan and insane asylums. Even that once proud boast of New York State, in its day "the greatest water way in the world," the Erie Canal, was indebted for its early progress to the lottery. Delaware owes to it its

schools and Masonic Institute, Maryland numberless public charities, Virginia its university and public roads, the Father of our Country personally managing a lottery for the latter purpose. The Carolinas and other southern States have been similarly aided and largely benefited by this means, as have nearly all the western States, the public library of Louisville, the fire department and charity hospital of St. Louis being prominent cases.

It may, in fact, be stated without exaggeration, that the original settlement of a large portion of the United States was due to the liberal lottery grant given to the "Virginia Company" by James the First, while no less a patriot than Thomas Jefferson was strongly in favor of raising funds to carry out the ideas of the first "Continental Congress" in 1776, by means of a public lottery, under the management of the infant Government.

One thing is certain—during what are now called "the good old times," and are regarded as "the best days of the Republic," lotteries flourished under Government sanction. During the first half century of the history of the United States, nearly every lottery grant was licensed, over 80 per cent. of the funds of which were devoted to public purposes and benefits.

But times have changed. There is a fashion in lotteries as in everything else, and for a while at least lotteries have gone out of fashion in most States of the Union, though stock gambling (in which the amounts risked are greater, and the chances for prizes are less than in average lotteries, and in which the odds are greater) than in even the modest "lottery scheme" flourishes to a degree hitherto unknown.

In fact, the only lottery scheme of any magnitude now authorized in this country is that of the Louisiana State lottery, which forms an important part of the revenue of that State, and the drawings of which take place under the supervision of two of the leading men of the South—Generals Beauregard and Early—two gentlemen whose names are guarantees alike of good management and good faith.

The Louisiana State Lottery has been incorporated for some twenty years, with an average annual capital of \$1,000,000, and during its twenty years of existence it has paid out millions of dollars in prizes, and every year drawn has been fully and promptly cashed.

Many bankers and merchants have been numbered among "the lucky ones," but fortune has often favored the poor and hard-working portion of the population. Thus, at a recent drawing of this lottery, a "combine" of twenty-two car-drivers of the Lombard Street railroad, Philadelphia, drew and divided a prize of \$15,000 cash.

But with the single exception of this Louisiana State Lottery, all lotteries, which once constituted so important, and on the whole, profitable feature of life in the United States, are practically wiped out—legally obliterated.—*New York Sunday Mercury, January 1.*

The V. M. I. Investigation.

The joint committee appointed to investigate the management of the Virginia Military Institute (Mr. Stubbs, chairman) to day made their report. In the report the committee say as to the charges made that the credit of the Institute was at a low ebb and that three prices had to be paid for supplies, &c.

It was proven that supplies can be bought on better terms with the endorsement of the State, as asserted, but the regular expression "three prices" as extravagant and unnecessary.

As to the status of the various trusts funds connected with the Virginia Military Institute, the committee say the sum of the institution amounting to \$89,700, have been recklessly absorbed in the general expense fund of the Institute, have been dissipated and their very existence compromised, cannot be too severely censured.

The committee recommends that an expert be placed at the service of the present Board of Visitors for the purpose of tracing accurately the amounts of said funds, the disposition made of them, and that they embody the result in their next report, with a view of reinstating said funds and re-allocate them to the purposes for which they were originally established, and that they shall likewise examine into the bonds of the bonded and floating debt of the Institute.

As to the charge "that the appropriation ordered by the Board of Visitors had been transacted," the committee said that it had been done in a slight degree, but the disposition to disregard the order of the Board on the part of the Superintendent in this particular, and that he would have done so but for the checks established by the Board, was clearly established.

In regard to the charge that the Superintendent had sentents belonging to the Institute to Christopher S. C. without authority, the committee only stated that it was earnestly commended the Superintendent on his action, which was approved both by the Governor and the president of the Board, that the expression "without authority" was an unfathomable reflection upon the generous action of the Superintendent in sending the old tents to the Charles-ton sufferers.

About the military band at the Institute, the Board said, admitting as the Superintendent claimed, that he alone had the legal right to enlist and appoint musicians under the rule, that he could do so. The Board said that men could be employed who could play in the band and do other work when not thus occupied, with a view to reducing expenses, seems a very correct one, and should we think have called forth more alacrity and earnestness on the part of the Superintendent in making experiments in that direction, &c.

The committee find that a manifest want of harmony existed between the last Board of Visitors and the Superintendent, and they cannot, in all candor, see why it may not continue under the Board now directing the interests of the State involved in one of its most expensive institutions—one that has cost the State nearly \$600,000. Without reflecting in any degree upon the integrity and the noble and heroic character of Gen. Francis H. Smith, we would recommend that in consideration of his faithful and eminent service in the past, and his untiring energy in putting this splendid institution out of the ashes, in which a heartless and ruthless destroyer left, into a new and vigorous existence, and, too, on account of his age, that at the end of the present year he be retired from service on the half pay he is now receiving with the honorable title of "Emeritus Superintendent" of the Virginia Military Institute.

Thus a lottery became a trade society. Various Episcopal and Congregational churches at Newport and elsewhere have been built with the help of lotteries.

Two of the most noted preachers in this country, Increase and Cotton Mather, lived and died in houses built by lotteries, and the Rev. Dr. Elihuot Nott, of Union College, has written the best, because most truthful, defence of the lottery system. Rev. Dr. Nott was a historical character, the grandfather of the present Bishop Henry Codman Potter, of New York, and the inventor of the celebrated Nott stove. The defense of the lottery system was before the New York Legislature.

The first Episcopal church in Brooklyn, St. Ann's, on the Heights, was erected largely by means of funds under the personal direction of Rev. Dr. Page.

The famous charity hospital of New Orleans, one of the historic institutions of the country, has for many years been partly supported by over a quarter of a million of dollars received for it during that period from the Louisiana State Lottery.

Christ Church, in Louisiana, the first Protestant church in that State, was erected on a site purchased by lottery funds, and various similar instances could be cited.

Colleges and schools in America, almost without number, have from time to time been indebted to lotteries for their erection or completion. Dartmouth College, Harvard College, Leicester Academy, Rhode Island College, Williamsburg Free School, some dozen of educational institutions in New York State and Pennsylvania, and scores of institutions through the South and West might be enumerated. Roads have been constructed by lottery funds, also bridges, canals, and manufactures. In addition to the Union Canal, already mentioned, the Amoskeag Canal, and the Wilton Canal must be cited, while Battield Bridge, River Park Bridge, Kennebec Bridge, the Milton Paper Mill, the Connecticut Manufacturing, all owe their very existence to the lottery system.

To this system Rhode Island owes to-day its free schools, Connecticut its orphan and insane asylums. Even that once proud boast of New York State, in its day "the greatest water way in the world," the Erie Canal, was indebted for its early progress to the lottery.

Delaware owes to it its

FINN AND COMMERCE

Reported by C. W. Branch & Co., bankers and brokers, No. 111 Main street.

New York Stock Market.

Review.

NEW YORK, March 5.—The morning's sales were 56,000 Reading shares, and 29,600 of St. Paul shares, with all the active list well distributed in the aggregate of 223,700 shares till noon; but the activity was at the expense of prices, which were raised down by the room traders on all sorts of alarming stories from the Western strikes. The bulk of these stories was denied before the Board had been in session an hour, but the feeling was feverish, and the market steadily softened with the coolers leading the declines. At noon came news that the C. B. and Northern men (who had been represented as already gone out) had not struck, and there were no signs of it to day thus far. The rumored strike on the Reading panned out in like manner, and these denials finally checked the raiding. Then the market grew dull and waited for further news. Cables represented the Crown Prince's doctors as more hopeful, but some London dispatches claimed that private cables there from the Berlin bourses created an uneasy feeling. The New York cotton and grain markets sold off sharply, and this tended to create a nervous feeling in stocks. The afternoon dispatches from Chicago represent better feeling in official railway circles, and that the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy had posted the following notice in the conductors' room: "All trains will run to day on schedule time, except Nos. 1, 15, and 17." And to day freight was being received for all points east of the Mississippi, and to-morrow freight would be received for all points up to the Missouri river. The most noticeable feature in to-day's trading was the excellent character of the buying. The largest houses were buying on scale orders, and the bulk of the selling was by the professionals and traders.

Money continues easy; rates, 3/2 to 3 percent. Sterling exchange fell back to 48/80 on increased offerings of commercial bills.

RAILROAD STOCKS. Bid. Asked. Canada Southern..... 514 514 Del. Lack. and Western..... 127 2 127 2 Erie..... 245 245 Jersey Central..... 591 591 Lake Shore..... 896 896 Louisville and Nashville..... 543 543 M. K. T..... 182 182 N. & W., preferred..... 422 422 New York and New England..... 361 361 Northwestern..... 107 107 Northern Pacific, preferred..... 441 441 New York Central..... 1062 1062 Pacific Mail..... 541 541 Reading..... 624 624 Richmond Terminal..... 21 21 Richmond and Terminal, preferred..... 64 64 St. Paul..... 544 544 Union Pacific..... 544 544 Western Union Tel..... 514 514

RAILROAD BONDS. Bid. Asked. C. & O. 4%..... 67 67 C. & O. cur..... 19 20 R. & A. 1st..... 504 504 R. & D. debentures..... 103 110 R. & D. deb., ex. coup..... 824 891 P. & G. Pac. 1st..... 108 109 Georgia Pacific, 2d..... 514 524 T. R. 6%..... 87 87 East Penn, 5%..... 99 100

CHICAGO GRAIN AND PRODUCT MARKET. Reported by C. E. Redford & Co., Grain Commission Merchants, No. 6 South Twelfth street.

CHICAGO, March 5.—Highest, Lowest, Closing. May..... 814 804-4 804 June..... 814-2 804 814 July..... 814-2 81 814-2

CORN. May..... 534 521 533 June..... 534 514 53 July..... 534 52 531 OATS. May..... 324 314 314-32 PORK. May..... 13.97 13.80 13.87 LARD. May..... 7.79 7.67 7.70 June..... 7.52-75 7.72-75 7.72-75 SHORT RIBS. May..... 7.25 7.20 7.22 June..... 7.35 7.30 7.32 Estimated receipts of hogs, 20,000.

GRAIN AND COTTON EXCHANGE. RICHMOND, Va., March 5. OFFERINGS REPORTED TO SECRETARY.

Wheat.—1,618 bushels. Corn.—1,516 bushels. Oats.—2,084 bushels. Peas.—16 bushels.

SALE REPORTED TO SECRETARY.

Wheat.—Longberry, 1,200 bushels. Shortberry, 100 bushels. Corn.—White, 500 bushels. Spring, 26 bushels prime 42c. Total sales of oats, 1,929 bushels.

COTTON REPORT.

Market dull. Quotations—Midding, 10c; low middling, 8c; good ordinary, 8-9 1/2c.

RICHMOND LIVE STOCK MARKET.

RICHMOND, Va., March 5. RECEIPTS.—337 head cattle, 243 sheep, 549 hogs.

SALES.—314 head cattle, 215 sheep, 468 hogs.

PORK.—Cattle: Best, 45 to 5 gross; medium to good, 37 to 44 gross; common to fair, 28 to 34 gross; sheep, 34 to 7 gross; hams, 54 to 74 net; bullocks, 22 to 34 gross.

DOCTOR.

"Object! Why, certainly not, knowing as I do the ingredients of the excellent Cough Syrup. I always recommend it to my patients and find it cures every time, but see that you get the genuine Dr. David's Cough Syrup."

THINK OF IT.

Over 35,000 boxes of the CHEROKEE COUGH DROPS have been sold in Richmond and Manchester during the last year. These Cough Drops have never failed to give relief to colds, coughs, sore throat, hoarseness, &c. and are hereby notified that all of said drops have been placed in my hands for collection according to law.

The committee, in concluding their report, said that the school is in a flourishing condition and giving promise of reaching the maximum of its capacity and wide usefulness. An additional building, completing the square, is needed.

The committee, in concluding their report, said that the school is in a flourishing condition and giving promise of reaching the maximum of its capacity and wide usefulness. An additional building, completing the square, is needed.

The State may well be proud of such a school, and as its means may justify should foster and enlarge it," &c. &c.

The report was signed by every member of the committee.

No action had been taken at 3 o'clock.